GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:734
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002
AUGMENTATION OF TERRITORIAL ARMY
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to increase the strength of Territorial Army to 1 lakh by 2007 as compared to the present authorised strength of 40,085;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any recommendation in this regard;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in pursuance thereof;

(d) whether the Government are also considering making Territorial Army a visible platform for citizens to support the regular Army; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 734 FOR 16.5.2002

The Territorial Army Review Committee headed by Shri K.P. Singh Deo, in its report have recommended, inter-alia, the increase of the Territorial Army components in the current manpower ceiling to about 80,000 to 1,00,000 by the year 2007. In the context of the prevailing security scenario in the country, the Government have accepted `in principle`, the need for expansion of Territorial Army from its present strength of 32,800 in a phased manner and to make a vibrant force of disciplined and trained citizens from all walks of life available to support the regular Army.